

Instruct Embassy To Investigate Mexico's Concession To Japan

No Official Confirmation Has Reached State Department As Yet.

JAPS HAVE LONG SOUGHT HOLD
Land Originally Granted to American Company by General Diaz.

Washington, March 31.—The American embassy at Mexico City was instructed today to make inquiries concerning the report that the Mexican government has granted agricultural concessions to Japanese in Lower California and to report the facts as quickly as possible.

Washington, March 31.—No official confirmation has reached the department about the concessions and surprise was occasioned by the dispatch from Mexico City yesterday quoting General Amaro Aguirre, under secretary of development and agriculture, as saying they had been granted. The American government is interested, both because of the apparent success of Japanese in obtaining a long-sought foothold in Lower California and because the tract of land involved was developed and is claimed by an American company, whose rights were declared forfeited by the Mexican government in 1917.

The land, upwards of a million acres, below the California border was granted by the then President Diaz to the California and Mexican Land Company of Los Angeles, of which General Harrison Gray Otis of Los Angeles was the leading figure. It was desert land with nothing growing on it but sage brush, cactus and chaparral. The soil, however, was rich, in places 80 feet deep, formed by deposits for generations by the Colorado river.

It produced nothing for Mexico and the expense of putting water on the land was so great that no one in Mexico would undertake it. The American company spent more than \$1,000,000 in irrigation work before the tract was productive. One of the requirements of the concession was that the land should be irrigated. Another was that it should be settled with farmers and ranchers. Both the requirements are said to have been met by the American company. When Diaz was deposed and the revolutionary period began, the American settlers were driven from the land by revolutionaries. Live stock was stolen and several settlers were killed. For two years the land was uncared for and then the company found that Japanese settlers were willing to take up farms and cultivate them. The Japanese were protected by the Mexican government and negotiations with a Japanese syndicate.

Acting Secretary of State Phillips said today that the Los Angeles company proposed about two years ago to grant a Japanese corporation long term leases on a large portion, if not all of the tract. At that time the company still was unable to maintain American settlers there, but when the state department objected to the proposed leases the company dropped its negotiations with the Japanese. When Senator Phelan of California recently informed the department that negotiations had been renewed, the company's attention was directed to the American government's attitude.

COMMISSION REFUSES GUNS

Coblenz, March 31.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press).—Eighty big calibre German guns refused by the United States receiving commission because they did not meet certain modern standards have been sold to a Coblenz foundry and are soon to be made into farm implements and other peace time machinery.

While some of these cannon were cast as long ago as 1870, all had been used in the recent war, several of them having done duty against the Americans in the Argonne drive in November. After the guns had been refused by the Americans members of the German delivering commission requested that they be permitted to dispose of the war material in a foundry. The request was granted with the understanding that the cannon would quickly be melted into pig iron and that none of this would be used for the manufacture of new arms. Virtually all of the material which the Germans were to turn over to the Americans according to the terms of the armistice has been delivered.

Wheeler & Wilson Band Celebrates

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)
The Wheeler & Wilson band celebrated its 60th anniversary yesterday by holding a social session at Bohemian hall, Hallett street. About 60 were present, including active and retired members. Christopher Hellmann and George Sanger, the latter a member of the band for 50 years, made addresses. Luncheon was served and later the members indulged in a round of story telling.

WOODEN SHIP SPRINGS A LEAK

Alapaba in Distress Many Hours—Was Bound For Peru.

New York, March 31.—In the gale south of Cape Hatteras last week the United States Shipping Board's wooden freight steamer Alapaba, 3,500 tons gross, sprang a leak and was in distress for many hours, officers on the United Fruit Co.'s steamer Santa Marta reported on arrival here today. The last the Santa Marta heard of the Alapaba was at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, when the Santa Marta, having stood by the wooden vessel all night, proceeded on her voyage after receiving a wireless message from the United States Coast Guard tug Yamacraw, saying the latter was on her way to the Alapaba's aid.

The Alapaba was on a voyage from Norfolk, Va., to Molendo, Peru, via the Panama canal. She sent out distress signals at 4:30 p.m. Friday, and the Santa Marta reached her three hours later. She found the Alapaba with heavy seas breaking over the decks, steam pipes broken, leaking badly, several feet of water in the hold and with only two days' supply of oil left for the engines and barely able to make headway.

The United States Shipping Board officials here were without advice up to 10:30 a.m. today regarding the whereabouts of the Alapaba.

SWEDES REQUEST AID FOR HUNS

Stockholm, March 31.—One request that America should send food to Germany was drawn up here by a delegation of medical scientists representing two hundred Swedish physicians who asked the American Minister, Ira Nelson Morris, to forward it to President Wilson.

The petition was supported by the report of Professor J. E. Johansson, a nutrition expert, whose investigation of the German situation has been in progress since 1915. He declared that tuberculosis in Germany has increased 100 per cent. Basing their argument on this statement, the Swedish doctors in their petition said serious epidemics might be expected to spread through the world from Germany unless food was soon supplied to the German people.

Since the Swedish petition was presented to Mr. Morris, Germany has agreed to surrender her merchant ships to the Allies and the latter have promised to send food to Germany.

CATCH FORMER ARCHDUKE AND MILLIONAIRE

Geneva, March 31.—Two persons dressed as peasants, who were trying to cross the Hungarian frontier into Germany, were betrayed by their hands, which were out of keeping with the costumes they wore. Their finger nails were manicured and the hands generally clean and showing no signs of hard work.

The socialist commandant Herr Keutzholtz, sent the arrested men to Budapest, where they were identified as the former Archduke Joseph Francis and a former millionaire named János Orosz.

SUED FOR DIVORCE AND FOR SLANDER BADENSKY IS BLUE

The world looked like a dreary place to Frank Badenski of this city today when he learned that his wife had sued him for divorce and that Louis Matlis of this city had started legal proceedings against him for \$1,000 damages, alleging slander.

These troubles coming in connection with the changing of the clock so that Frank lost an hour's sleep, made him feel like blue around the edges.

Matlis claims he was accused by Badenski of having been familiar with the latter's wife. The charge was made in the hearing of several persons and Matlis says it is false and malicious.

In the divorce action brought by the wife, Mary Badenski, she accused her husband of intolerable cruelty. The couple were married February 5, 1906, the wife's maiden name having been Mary Horvath. She asks for alimony.

If tears will prevent it, the esteemed New York World will keep the prohibition constitutional amendment from making the nation very dry.—Boston Transcript.

Germany wishes it distinctly to be understood that she signs the armistice terms only because she is helpless. That is entirely satisfactory to the rest of the world.

Washington, March 31.—Eugene V. Debs' application for a rehearing of his appeal from conviction and sentence to ten years' imprisonment for violating the Espionage Act was denied today by the supreme court.

SUBS LEAVE FOR U. S.
Harwich, England, March 31.—Four German submarines conveyed by the United States submarine tender Bushnell, left here today for the United States. Many more than the required number of officers are making the trans-Atlantic trip on the captured craft.

AVER LENINE HAS BEEN SLANDERED

English Writer Minimizes Stories of Outrages By Russians.

London, March 31.—George Lansbury, editor of the new labor newspaper, the Daily Herald, declares that the Allies have received a proposal for an understanding with the present rulers of Russia and intimates that the conditions of this understanding are the withdrawal of Allied troops from Russia and the abandonment of the policy of interference in Russian affairs. Russia, on her part, would be willing not to interfere with the actions of other nations; allow Finland, Estonia, Ukraine and other republics formed from the bygone Russian empire to choose their own forms of government and to pay Russia's international debts.

The writer minimizes stories of outrages by Russian revolutionaries, declaring that such happenings have been less frequent than in other revolutions on a similar scale. He avers that Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik premier, and Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik minister of war and marine, have been "outrageously slandered" and describes the present administration of Russia as "clean and uncorrupt." The reorganization of industries is proceeding everywhere in Russia, Mr. Lansbury says.

GYPSY QUEEN IS NOT A BEAUTY

Draggled Fortune Teller, Babe in Arms, in Toils of Law.

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)

The City Court and attaches were somewhat disappointed this morning when Guyta Andrea, a gypsy fortune teller, appeared before Judge Wilder on charge of the theft of \$2,000 from Mary John of Portsmouth, Va. The much heralded beauty of the accused was not noticeable. Instead of a vivacious gypsy queen with flashing black eyes and haughty air, there appeared a woe-filled, pined clad woman with an infant in her arms. She gave her name as Lena Stevens, 56 Lexington avenue.

The woman was arrested on a warrant issued by the police of Portsmouth, Va. She had been in the city for some time. Judge Wilder continued the case and held the woman under \$2,000 bonds. She is one of a band of gypsy fortune tellers now operating in Bridgeport.

One of the schemes by which these clever operators extract money from the credulous is practiced in the following manner. The customer who is looking for an insight into the future is brought into a darkened room where the appointments lend an air of mystery. The victim is seated at a table directly opposite the "phenologist" who immediately plays on the imagination of her lamb.

Through chanting and other cajoling, appealing to the victim's religious and hysterical condition is brought about when the customer is instructed to lay money on the table. This money disappears up the sleeve of the operator and the game is continued by substituting with phony bills. The operator then wraps the fake money into a paper and "to prove that you are more careful of your soul than his contents are buried."

The gypsy woman, attired in none too clean red and yellow raiment, with her baby, was taken back to her cell. Others of her kind, however, are not so easily deterred and have finally raised enough money to furnish a bond for the release of Guyta Andrea.

GERMANY GIVES CHILE SURPRISE

Pretends to Consider Valid Negotiations Which Were Not Completed.

Santiago, Chile, Saturday, March 29.—Germany has surprised the Chilean government by pretending to consider valid negotiations which Chile entered into for the leasing of the German ships interned in Chile which are soon to be handed over to the United States in keeping with the agreement reached at the Peace Congress. The Chilean government announces that it does not recognize the contract because it was never completed.

In the spring of 1913 Chile began negotiations with Germany to lease the German vessels, but dropped the negotiations in September, after the German crews of the interned ships had attempted to destroy them. The attempt to damage the ships came while Germany apparently was still willing to negotiate for their lease.

SIMS GIVEN BIG SENDOFF AS HE STARTS FOR HOME

London, March 31.—Vice Admiral William S. Sims, who commanded the American naval forces in the war zone, was given a rousing send off at naval headquarters this morning when he said farewell as he was about to leave for the United States. The streets about the headquarters were packed with soldiers of all nationalities, while the entire headquarters staff turned out for the occasion. Scores of cowbells mingled their din with the cheering as the vice-admiral waved the crowd goodbye.

Vice Admiral Sims will sail from Southampton on the steamer Mauretania tonight. Accompanying him are Captains Richard H. Leigh, Dudley W. Knox and Joel R. P. Pringle. Commanders Fairfield and John V. Babcock, and Lieutenant Commander Edwards.

VIENNA STRIKE NOT SETTLED

Situation In That City Still Reported Very Grave.

Paris, March 31.—Reports that the railroad strike in German-Austria has been settled are untrue, according to a Vienna despatch to the Echo de Paris, which was forwarded by way of Genoa. Negotiations between the strikers and Herr Renner, the chancellor and Herr Deutsch, secretary for military affairs, have failed and the strike continues on the Eastern and Southern railroad. It is said.

Colonel Cary, of the British army, who is at Trieste, has offered to act as arbitrator, but the strikers have been destroying railroad property and stopping the transportation of food. A council of railroad workers has been formed in Styria.

Chancellor Renner has implored the strikers to moderate their demands, pointing out that in case of complications, the Entente troops will occupy the country. Employees of the western section of the Franz-Joseph railroad have joined in the strike which prevails on the northern and northwestern systems. A British representative at Vienna is reported to have issued a proclamation to the public exhorting the people not to interrupt the movement of food supplies. The situation is reported to be still grave.

NECESSITY FOR QUICK DISCHARGE

Gen. March Emphasizes Need to Release Men From Army.

Washington, March 31.—Necessity for the prompt discharge of all men who can be spared from the army and whose enlistment contracts do not hold them beyond the period of the war, is emphasized by General March, in a circular of instruction to demobilization officers, made public today at the War Department.

"The retention of all is again directed," it says, "to the importance of discharging from the military service as rapidly as they can be spared all men drafted or enlisted only for the period of the emergency."

The other direct also that previous instructions shall be interpreted so that men will be let out where there is no specific reason for their being retained even though they are not in the classes authorized for priority of discharge.

Where a camp is to be used for storage purposes and will require additional personnel to be retained on that account, General March directs that the commandant refer the matter to Washington for decision.

WILL NOT TAKE PART IN STRIKE

Participation Would Involve Violation of Fundamental Laws of Union.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 31.—The United States Mine Workers of America will not participate in any general strike on July 4 in behalf of Thomas Mooney, convicted of complicity in a bomb explosion in San Francisco in a preparedness day parade by the United Mine Workers' executive board of the mine workers' decided against participation in such a strike was made here today through the official publication of the union.

The executive board, through the convention of the International Workers' Defense League of San Francisco, held in Chicago, which issued the strike call, was not authorized by the American Federation of Labor and the International Union of the Mine Workers was not represented officially at the convention and is not bound by its action.

The membership of the mine workers' organization cannot participate in any such strike without violating the fundamental laws governing the union and antagonizing the joint wage agreement which which the union is working, the executive committee said. Local unions had asked the international headquarters here what the policy toward the proposed general strike.

KEEGAN ANSWERS HIS 955TH CALL

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)
Terminated by 18 months of service at the Emergency Hospital and answering his 955th ambulance call, Dr. Keegan left his emergency work today to become outside physician with the Charities Department. His last call was at the home of John Skoge, 6 King's Highway, where a six year old son, Nelson, was in convulsions as the result of drinking about two ounces of cough medicine. Dr. Keegan administered an emetic and, not knowing the contents of the bottle, which was a possibility, the child was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, where the patient is not resting comfortably.

Woman Sues Conn. Co. For Alleged Fall; Asks \$2,000

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)
Declaring she was painfully injured when thrown to the ground by the sudden starting of a trolley car, Fannie Ziff of this city, brought suit against the Connecticut Co. today, for \$2,000. She alleges that on February 3, last, she wanted to get off a car at Noble and Barnum avenues when the signal to go ahead was suddenly given. The plaintiff claims that since the accident she has been confined to bed by reason of her injuries. She charges the trolley car crew with negligence. The suit is returnable to the April term of court.

CLERK SCHULTZ DIES SUDDENLY

Republicans Prepare for Election of His Successor at Special Council Meeting.

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)

Stricken with a heart failure of long standing at 9:45 o'clock this morning, Town Clerk Joseph Schultz died a few moments later at his home, 1169 Kosuth street. His sudden death came as a shock to his many friends and associates in official life at city hall, who had only recently rejoiced at his return to his desk in the town clerk's office after recovering from a fall of a few months ago. Mr. Schultz would have completed his sixth year, and third successive term as town clerk in November, 1919, he having been elected to the office in November, 1913. Previous to that he had been a city sheriff for three years, filling the unexpired term of the late Sheriff Thomas Hamilton.

A successor for the office of town clerk will be elected by the common council at a special meeting to be called by Mayor Clifford B. Wilson. Nomination of candidates will be made by the aldermen, and the one receiving the majority of votes will be elected. Although the sudden death of Mr. Schultz's death has left the administration with little thought of his successor, the names of Assistant Town Clerk Clarence E. Winton, Representative Thomas Chew and James Turner have been mentioned. Joseph Schultz was born in Landau, Province of Bavaria, Germany, September 5, 1856, and would have reached his 63rd year in 1919. He came to this country 40 years ago and settled in Bridgeport a few years later, entering business here and became widely popular.

He is survived by a widow, Cecelia Schultz, a son and daughter by his first wife, Mrs. Fred A. Finn and Joseph Schultz, Jr., of this city, and three foster children, Otto Edelman, Mrs. William J. Tyrrell and Charles Diehl, all of Bridgeport. He is also survived by two brothers, John and Adam Schultz. Funeral arrangements have not been completed. Mr. Schultz was a member of Hugo Masberg lodge, I. O. O. F., Bridgeport Encampment, Koerner lodge and St. Joseph's church.

Practically every city official expressed his sincere regret and sympathy for the family on learning of the town clerk's death. Mayor Clifford B. Wilson said: "It was deeply grieved to learn of Mr. Schultz's death. He was a man whom I held high in my esteem, and his administration of the office of the town clerk was instrumental in placing it on the present high plane."

Alderman Malcolm MacFadden said: "I was surprised and deeply shocked to hear the sad news. I was talking to Mr. Schultz over the telephone last night and he seemed in good health and spirits. I greatly admired him and extend my sincere condolence to the members of his family."

City Clerk J. Alex. Robinson said: "The death of Town Clerk Schultz comes as a sad blow to all of us who were so well acquainted with him, and who knew him for what he was—a man of high ideals, upright and honest."

Chairman of the Board of Apportionment, William E. Seelye on learning of Mr. Schultz' death, said: "I was deeply grieved to learn of the town clerk's death. He was a man well worth knowing and an efficient public servant."

City Auditor Bernard Keating, who had known Mr. Schultz for a number of years, said: "His presence will be missed from city hall. He was a man of personal magnetism and a friend I was proud to have."

Assistant City Clerk Robert M. Jones said: "I was very much shocked to hear of the death of my old friend, Mr. Schultz. He was one of the most accommodating and agreeable men I have ever had the good fortune of knowing."

Death of Capuaro Due to Accident Declares Coroner

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)
That Leonardo Capuaro met death by accident is the finding of Coroner Phelan made today in the case of the man who was crushed under the wheels of a motor truck near the Kensington Arms plant on March 26 last. The coroner said he could find no evidence that would make David Havery, driver of the truck, responsible for the fatality.

Capuaro, who was employed at the Arms plant, was riding a bicycle on the drive near the plant and approached the truck from the rear. There were a number of persons walking along this drive. The coroner says it cannot be determined for certain whether the victim lurched toward the truck to avoid hitting these persons or to get a tow from the truck. At any rate, it was established that Havery did not see Capuaro until the latter was falling toward the truck. Capuaro's legs were crushed and he died soon after his arrival at the hospital.

AMERICANS WIN

Christiania, Mar. 31.—The British legation recently challenged the American legation to a six mile ski race, and ten members of each organization took part in the contest. The Americans won with 27 points against eighteen for the English.

TO EXPEDITE PROCEEDINGS

Paris, March 31.—Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson conferred privately for an hour this forenoon before the Council of Four met at the President's residence. It is understood that the purpose of the conference was to expedite the peace proceedings.

GENERAL COLE REGISTERS

New York, March 31.—Brigadier General Charles H. Cole, who arrived on the Aquitania yesterday with a vanguard of the 26th Division, registered in Hoboken early and left for Boston, where he is to make plans for the division's upcoming, next month.

Commander Demands Release Of 350 Men Hungarians Willing

SERGEANT "PETE" HACKETT DEAD

Was Thirty Years Member Bridgeport Police Force; But Recently Retired.

General gloom pervades the police station today caused by the death of Sergeant Peter Hackett, who was a member of the Bridgeport police force for thirty years. Hackett died this morning at his home, 517 Main street. During his long service on the police force he was known for his genial manner and good fellowship. One of the old-timers said this morning, "Pete was a great detective and a good fellow. He was always smiling."

Peter Hackett was born in New York City in 1854. Early in life he came to Bridgeport. On September 22, 1884, he was appointed patrolman on the police force. On March 15, 1905, he was promoted to sergeant in which rank he served until June 16, 1905, when he was retired on pension. Arrangements are being made by the police department for proper representation at his funeral which will be announced later.

In his younger days Hackett was a slender man, very swift on his feet, and one of the best club fencers in the country. He was concerned in many notable cases. He frequently took his station at Fairfield avenue and Main street to look over the strangers in town and generally held a levee for the numerous citizens who knew him.

Mr. Hackett is survived by one son, William, of Beaumont avenue, a daughter-in-law and two grandchildren, Helen and Harold Hackett. Other relatives are known to be living in New York City but on account of a separation of many years, their addresses are unknown to the surviving son, William. It is requested that New York papers note the death in the hope of locating and informing the New York branch of the family of the demise.

WILL REOPEN MURDER CASE

Coroner Informed That Fannie Sachosky Lured Dickovisky to His Death.

(Monday, March 31, 1919.)
After he had been informed new evidence had been found to show that Fannie Sachosky lured Nicholas Dickovisky to the Alpine hotel on the night he was shot, Coroner Phelan announced today that he will reopen the case of the woman recently exonerated of blame for the killing. The new evidence will be introduced at a hearing to be held tomorrow morning before the coroner.

Judge Thomas C. Coughlin, representing friends of the victim, asked to have the case reopened. He claims witnesses will say that on the night of the crime Fannie Sachosky induced the man to visit the hotel for the purpose of killing him. She had a grievance against Dickovisky, friends of the deceased said, and had once visited his home where she threatened him with a revolver.

The woman's story as told to the coroner was that Dickovisky threatened to kill her because she would not change her testimony in a suit she had brought against him. She claimed she shot him in self defense.

AMES REACHES HONDURAS

Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Sunday, March 30.—Wilson Ames, a special agent of the American state department, arrived here today. He was received later by President Bertrand.

WITHDRAW RESIGNATION

Santiago, Chile, March 31.—The ministry of which Armando Quezada is the head, and which resigned on March 25, has withdrawn its resignation.

Quezada, who was employed at the Arms plant, was riding a bicycle on the drive near the plant and approached the truck from the rear. There were a number of persons walking along this drive. The coroner says it cannot be determined for certain whether the victim lurched toward the truck to avoid hitting these persons or to get a tow from the truck. At any rate, it was established that Havery did not see Capuaro until the latter was falling toward the truck. Capuaro's legs were crushed and he died soon after his arrival at the hospital.

Will Attempt Ocean Flight On Afternoon Of April 16

English Fliers Arrive and Start Assembling Planes—Expect to Encounter But Seven Hours of Darkness—Fly at Height of 10,000 Feet.

St. Johns, N. F., March 31.—Lieutenant Hawker, pilot, and Commander Grieve, navigator of the Sopwith airplane with which they will attempt an Atlantic flight next month, arrived here Sunday and will begin assembling their machines today. The airplane is expected to be ready for trial trips by the end of the week and, if conditions are favorable, the ocean flight will be attempted at 2 p. m., April 16.

The airmen expect to encounter only seven hours of darkness and to land in England the next forenoon. They made a 24-hour non-stop flight in England and are confident of success.

The flight will be along the track used by ocean liners although no special arrangements have been made with the steamship companies for the safety of the airmen. If any mishap should occur they can release petrol and fill the tanks with air to keep the machine afloat. They will carry inflatable rubber dresses and a collapsible boat in which they can support themselves. Their wireless equipment with a radius of 700 miles will enable them to summon ships. Substantial supplies of condensed milk are in the air for 50 hours.

Halifax, March 31.—Colonel Ray Collishaw, a Canadian aviator, sailed on the steamship Olympic for England today to bring back an airplane with which to enter the trans-Atlantic contest. He will attempt his flight from Newfoundland early in May. Colonel Collishaw expects to accomplish the flight in 20 hours. His machine will be equipped with five motors of 400 horsepower each, capable of carrying 50 people and remaining in the air for 50 hours.

Greatly Disturbed Conditions Reported to Exist in Hungary.

GERMANS WARNED TO QUIT THAT COUNTRY

Report Hungarians Have Sent An Ultimatum to Czecho-Slovakia.

Paris, March 31.—(By the Associated Press).—A small force of French troops stationed in the neutral zone between Hungary and Rumania has been attacked by Hungarian troops, 350 of the French being taken prisoner, according to an official report received here.

On demand of the French general the release of the prisoners has been promised by the Hungarians. Greatly disturbed conditions are reported to exist in Hungary.

Basle, Switzerland, March 31.—The Hungarian government is reported in Vienna despatches to have sent an ultimatum to the Czecho-Slovak government. This action, it is stated, was taken because of the concentration of Czecho-Slovak troops and a rumor that there would be a general mobilization in Bohemia in the near future.

Berlin, Sunday, March 30.—(By The Associated Press).—The diplomatic agent of the German government at Budapest has advised Germans to leave Hungary.

GERMAN FINANCE AGENTS AT SPA

To Discuss Financial Questions With Representatives of Allies.

Paris, March 31.—(Havas).—The German financial sub-commission, which is to discuss pending financial questions with representatives of the Allies, has arrived at Spa.

The financial conference between German and Allied representatives according to the first announcements, was to be held in Paris. Later it was said the meeting was likely to be held at Versailles, although other places, including Compiègne, have been mentioned as the seat of the conference. A Berlin despatch on Saturday said the German commission would "stop at Spa on its way to Versailles, there to await developments."

5,503 TROOPS REACH HOME

New York, March 31.—With 287 troops, all casualties, the French line steamer La Lorraine arrived here today from Havre.

National army men of the 34th Infantry, 8th Division, returned on the steamship Alaskan, originally destined to Newport News but diverted to New York. The Alaskan brought altogether 2,200 troops, of whom about 200 were casualties of various branches of the service.

With more than 3,000 officers and men of the 91st Division, the steamship Siboney arrived, from St. Nazaire.

ACT ONLY ON 14 POINTS

London, March 31.—The development of the foreign office having charge of the peace negotiations has reported a decision as to its attitude toward the negotiations, a German wireless message says. The department has decided the German government should act only in accordance with President Wilson's 14 points.